GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:5
ANSWERED ON:22.11.2006
ALLOCATION OF SPECTRUM
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Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the CDMA operators have been allocated less spectrum as compared to GSM operators;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government has given preferential treatment to operators who have demanded spectrum on self-proclaimed subscribers base;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Union Government has received a number of representations for auction of spectrum;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the steps taken/being taken by the Union Government to allocate spectrum either through auction or establish a mechanism for verification of subscribers?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI DAYANIDHI MARAN)

(a) to (g) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT TO BE LAID ON THE TABLE OF THE LOK SABHA IN RESPECT OF PARTS (a) TO (g) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 5 FOR 22ND NOVEMBER, 2006 REGARDING ALLOCATION OF SPECTRUM.

(a) to (d) No, Sir. Radio Frequency spectrum is allotted, subject to availability of the same, in accordance with the respective service license agreements and the additional spectrum is allotted on the basis of subscriber based criteria. These criteria prescribe `active subscribers` and `peak traffic` averaged over a month in the Visitor Location Register (VLR) and Network Management System (NMS) respectively, which are verifiable.

(e) No proposal/representation for auction of GSM and CDMA spectrum for existing services have been received.

(f) Does not arise in view of (e) above.

(g) A mechanism has been evolved for allotment of additional spectrum based on the active subscribers in VLR and peak traffic data in NMS, which are verifiable.